

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KINGST 01243 081428Z

70

ACTION SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /031 W

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P 081200Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4439

INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS PRIORITY

S E C R E T KINGSTON 1243

EXDIS

PASS TO OPIC

TUNIS FOR AMB GERRARD

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIN, EMIN, US, JA

SUBJECT: BAUXITE NEGOTIATIONS SITREP #28

1. GOVERNMENT AND INDUSTRY NEGOTIATORS MET FOR SEVERAL HOURS THE AFTERNOON OF SATURDAY, APRIL 6. SPEAKING FROM NOTES INDUSTRY SPOKESMAN (CUTLER) TRIED TO ADDRESS POINTS RAISED IN GOVERNMENTS LETTER OF APRIL 3, BUT HAD CONSIDERABLE DIFFICULTY IN DOING SO BECAUSE OF THE BRUSQUE AND (ACCORDING TO HIM) EVEN RUDE BEHAVIOR OF ROSSEAU AND OTHER NEGOTIATORS ON GOVERNMENT SIDE. (CUTLER'S SPEAKING NOTES TRANSMITTED SEPTEL). FIRST HALF OF SESSION WAS FAIRLY STORMY, WITH MATALON REFUSING TO SPEAK FURTHER AFTER AN INDUSTRY CHALLENGE TO HIS FIGURES WHICH HE APPARENTLY REGARDED AS INSULTING, AND SOME FOOT-SCRAPING FROM INDUSTRY BACK-BENCHERS WHO REGARDED TONE OF GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATORS AS UNGENTLEMANLY. HOWEVER, THINGS CLAMED DOWN DURING SECOND HALF, THOUGH PARTIES STILL FAR APART AND NO SOLUTION IN SIGHT.

2. GOVERNMENT SUBMITTED A PAPER RESPONDING TO INDUSTRY PAPER OF MARCH 30. GOVERNMENT PAPER REJECTED BOTH LEVEL OF INDUSTRY REVENUE OFFER AND FORMULA BY WHICH IT WAS DERIVED AND COMPLAINED ABOUT THE ACCURACY AND CONSISTENCY OF INDUSTRY FIGURES.

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PAGE 02 KINGST 01243 081428Z

GOVERNMENT PAPER ALSO CONTAINED IMPLIED THREAT THAT, SHOULD

REVENUE ISSUES NOT BE RESOLVED IN NEAR FUTURE, IT MIGHT  
BE FORCED TO SIMPLY IMPOSE ITS OWN SOLUTION BY LEGISLATION.  
HOWEVER, THIS THREAT IMPLIED, NOT STATED, AND IT IS INTERESTING  
THAT WHILE GOVERNMENT PAPER INVOKED PRIME MINISTER MANLEY'S  
SPEECH TO COMPANY PRESIDENTS OF MARCH 15 IT MADE NO REFERENCE  
TO ITS OWN PAPER OF THAT DATE. TEXT OF GOVERNMENT'S APRIL  
6 PAPER FORWARDED BY SEPTEL.

3. AT THE END OF APRIL 6 MEETING IT WAS AGREED THAT INDUSTRY  
WOULD DEVELOP ECONOMIC DATA SUPPORTING ITS OFFER, AND THAT IN-  
DUSTRY ECONOMISTS WOULD BE HEARD AT NEXT NEGOTIATING SESSION,  
WHICH SET FOR APRIL 22. ALSO AGREED THAT, AS OF THAT DATE,  
NEGOTIATORS FROM BOTH SIDES WOULD GO INTO CONTINUOUS  
SESSION AT LEAST UNTIL REVENUE ISSUES RESOLVED. HEWITT

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## Message Attributes

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